

Message Text

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41

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SAB-01 IO-11 CPR-01 SCCT-01

SY-05 USSS-00 CU-04 SIL-01 LAB-04 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 OPR-02 A-01

OC-05 CCO-00 /088 W

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O R 091740Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6291

INFO PANCANAL

USCINCSO

UNCLAS PANAMA 0163

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PN

SUBJECT: THE NINTH OF JANUARY

SUMMARY: NINTH OF JANUARY CEREMONIES HELD THIS MORNING IN PANAMA CITY WITHOUT ANY VIOLENCE, OR RHETORICAL SURPRISES. END SUMMARY.

1. THE OFFICIAL CEREMONIES ON PANAMA'S NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING COMMEMORATING THE JAN. 9, 1964 RIOTS BEGAN THIS MORNING IN PLAZA PORRAS. A CROWD OF APPROXIMATELY 1,500-2,000 INCLUDING SEVERAL CABINET MINISTERS, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GUARDIA NACIONAL, AND MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS HEARD ARCHBISHOP OF PANAMA, MARCOS MCGRATH, CELEBRATE A MASS IN "HOMAGE TO AND MEMORY OF" THE PANAMANIAN "MARTYRS" KILLED TWELVE YEARS AGO TODAY.

2. THEME OF GOP SPONSORED RALLY SPELLED OUT ON UNCLASSIFIED

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PLATFORM BANNERS: "ANTI-IMPERIALIST FORCES UNITED

BEHIND THE REVOLUTION, PANAMA AND LATIN AMERICA AGAINST THE COLONIAL ENCLAVE". STUDENT, LABOR AND CITIZEN GROUPS FROM PANAMA CITY, ITS SUBURBS, AND NEARBY TOWNSHIPS CARRIED PLACARDS DENOUNCING "YANKEE IMPERIALISM", UNITED STATES PRESENCE IN CANAL ZONE, AND PROCLAIMING THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH OMAR.

3. OFFICIAL SPEAKERS AT PLAZA PORRAS RALLY WERE VICE-PRESIDENT GERARDO GONZALEZ AND PANAMANIAN STUDENT FEDERATION (FEP) PRESIDENT, ROBERTO GOMEZ. IN HIS VERY BRIEF ADDRESS, VICE-PRESIDENT RECALLED THE SACRIFICE OF THOSE FALLEN IN 1964, AND THE FERTILIZING EFFECT OF THAT DEED ON PANAMA'S CONSCIOUSNESS. GOMEZ FOLLOWED GONZALEZ AND DELIVERED PREDICTABLE, BUT ALSO BRIEF, HARANGUE OF "YANKEE IMPERIALISM."

4. FOLLOWING THE 9:00 A.M. RALLY STUDENT AND REPRESENTATIVE GROUPS FROM DISTRICTS OF PANAMA CITY MARCHED DOWN CENTRAL AVENUE TO THE CEMETERIES FOR OTHER COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONIES.

5. SIMILAR CEREMONIES WERE SCHEDULED THROUGHOUT PANAMA. AS OF NOON GODAY, EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED NO REPORTS OF VIOLENCE ANYWHERE IN THE REPUBLIC.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, CIVIL DISORDERS, SPEECHES, ANTIAMERICAN DEMONSTRATIONS
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE NINTH OF JANUARY SUMMARY: NINTH OF JANUARY CEREMONIES HELD THIS
TAGS: PINT, PN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006